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MAN LINKED TO "LUMBERJACK BANDIT" ROBBERIES ARRESTED IN LOS ANGELES AFTER BEING APPREHENDED BY RETIRED LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

A man linked to at least five bank robberies in two months was in federal court today after being arrested on suspicion of bank robbery, announced Steven Martinez, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI in Los Angeles.

Mauricio Enriquez, 28, of Mexico, was taken into custody Wednesday morning after he attempted to rob a Wells Fargo bank on Adams Street in downtown Los Angeles. After entering the bank, Wells Fargo employees recognized Enriquez from bank surveillance photographs that had been publicized. After the suspect drew a semi-automatic handgun, two security guards commanded Enriquez to surrender and finally apprehended him without further incident. The guards, who were hired by Wells Fargo and were on duty, are retired deputies with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Enriquez was then arrested by responding police officers with the Los Angeles Police Department. He was transferred to federal custody this morning.

The series of bank robberies linked to the Lumberjack Bandit are listed below. The bandit was named after witnesses described his beard and his clothing as characteristic of a lumberjack.

6/18 – Los Angeles

8/11 - Burbank

8/12 – Culver City

8/13 – Culver City

8/18 – Los Angeles

Enriquez was charged in a criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court with bank robbery. He will make an initial appearance before a U.S. Magistrate in federal court in Los Angeles this morning.

This case was investigated by the FBI and police detectives in Los Angeles, Culver City and Burbank. Enriquez will be prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office.

For more information about current fugitive bank robbers, please visit www.labankrobbers.org.

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